

Title: Elliptic Rydberg States as Direction Indicators

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Abstract:

# Elliptic Rydberg states as direction indicators



Perimeter Institute, July 2004

Netanel Lindner

Asher Peres Daniel R. Terno

N.L. et al, PRA 68, 042308 (2003)

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Alice wants to indicate a direction in space to Bob.

They don't share a joint reference frame.

A physical object needs to be sent.

Classical object: gyroscopes.

Quantum mechanical objects: Spins, hydrogen atom.

A quantum game – the rules

Alice picks a direction

Alice sends a quantum state to Bob. For example, angular momentum eigenstates

Bob measures the state and guesses a direction

Bob gets a score:

# **Elliptic Rydberg states**

**as direction indicators**



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- Alice wants to indicate a direction in space to Bob.



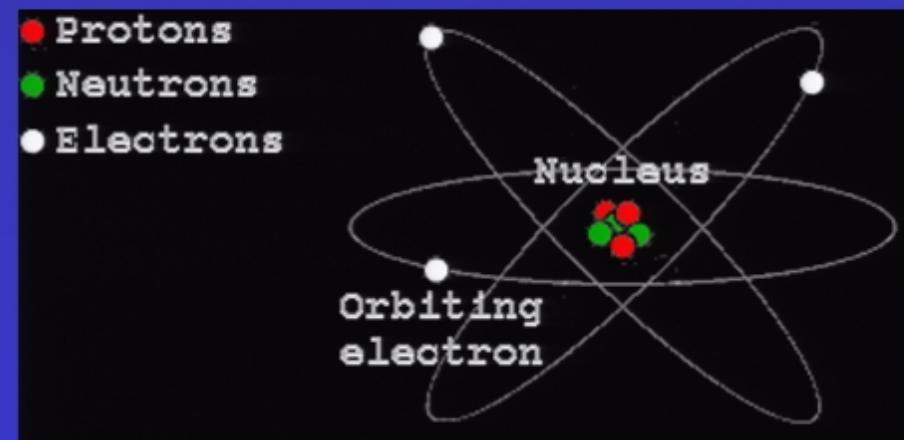
$\theta, \varphi$



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- A physical object needs to be sent.
  - Classical object: gyroscopes.
  - Quantum mechanical objects: Spins, hydrogen atom.



# A quantum game – the rules

- Alice picks a direction  $\hat{\mathbf{n}}_A$
- Alice sends a quantum state to Bob. For example, angular momentum eigenstates  
$$\hat{\mathbf{n}}_A \cdot \mathbf{J} |\psi\rangle = j |\psi\rangle$$
- Bob measures the state and guesses a direction  $\hat{\mathbf{n}}_B$
- Bob gets a score:  
$$\frac{1 + \hat{\mathbf{n}}_A \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_B}{2} \equiv \cos^2(\omega/2)$$



- **Objective:** Maximize fidelity  $F = \langle \cos^2(\omega/2) \rangle$

Case study: Alice has two spins

$$|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$$

$$|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$$



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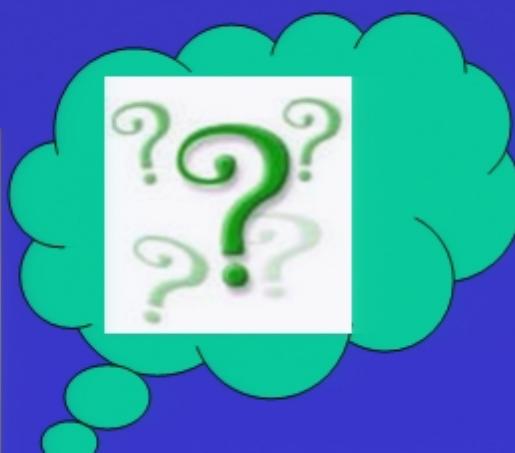
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$|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$

$F = 0.750$

$|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$

$F = 0.785$



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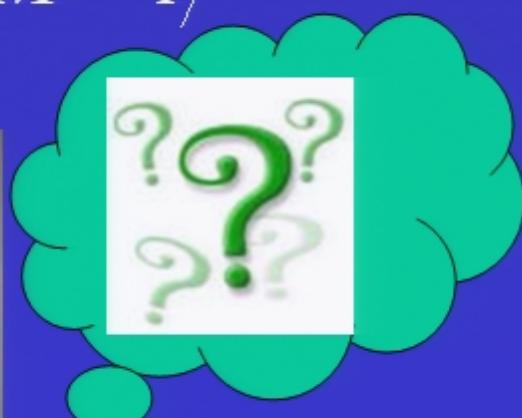
$$= |J = 1, M = 1\rangle$$

$$|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$$

$$F = 0.785$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |J = 0, M = 0\rangle$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |J = 1, M = 0\rangle$$



# Aligning a Cartesian frame

- Find the rotation that brings Bob's frame to Alice's.
- Same rules .
- Three directions:

$$F = \sum_{k=1,3} \left\langle \cos^2(\omega_k/2) \right\rangle$$



# Bob's measurement

- Bob's detectors have labels  $\psi\theta\phi$  which indicate the unknown **Euler angles** relating his Cartesian axes to those used by Alice.
- The mathematical representation of his apparatus is a **POVM**:

$$\int d_{\psi\theta\phi} E_{\psi\theta\phi} = 1 \quad d_{\psi\theta\phi} = \sin\theta d\theta d\psi d\phi / 8\pi^2$$

$$E_{\psi\theta\phi} = |\psi\theta\phi\rangle\langle\psi\theta\phi|$$



$$|B\rangle = \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} \sqrt{2l+1} \sum_{m=-l}^l b_{lm} |lm\rangle$$

$$\sum_{m=-l}^l |b_{lm}|^2 = 1$$

$$|\psi\theta\phi\rangle = U(\psi\theta\phi)|B\rangle$$

**By Schur's lemma, this construction gives a resolution of identity,**



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$$E_{\psi\theta\phi} = |\psi\theta\phi\rangle\langle\psi\theta\phi|$$





- Suppose Alice sends a hydrogen atom in the  $n$ th energy level.
- We wish to find feasible atomic state which would minimize the transmission error.
- Alice's signal, written in Alice's notation is

$$|A\rangle = \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} \sum_{m=-l}^l a_{lm} |lm\rangle.$$



- Caution:  $|A\rangle$  is in written in Alice's notation,  $|B\rangle$  is written in Bob's.
- Define the Euler angles  $\alpha\beta\gamma$  that rotate Bob's Cartesian frame into his **estimate** of Alice's frame and then rotate back by the **true angles** from Alice's to Bob's frame.

$$U(\alpha\beta\gamma) = U(\text{true})^\dagger U(\alpha\beta\gamma)$$

- $\alpha\beta\gamma$  indicate Bob's measurement error. The probability of that error is:

$$dP(\alpha\beta\gamma) = \left| \langle A | U(\alpha\beta\gamma) | B \rangle \right|^2 d_{\alpha\beta\gamma}.$$



# Optimality

- One direction: A. Peres and P. Scudo PRL **86** (2001)

$$|A\rangle = \sum_{j=0,n-1} a_j |j0\rangle \quad F = 1 - \frac{2.4}{(2n+1)^2}$$

- Reference frame: A. Peres and P. Scudo, PRL **87** (2001)  
Bagan et al, PRL **87** 257903 (2001)

$$|A\rangle = \sum_{j=0,n-1} a_j |jj\rangle \quad F = 1 - \frac{1}{n}$$

$$b_{jm} = a_{jm} \left( \sum_n |a_{jn}|^2 \right)^{-1/2}$$



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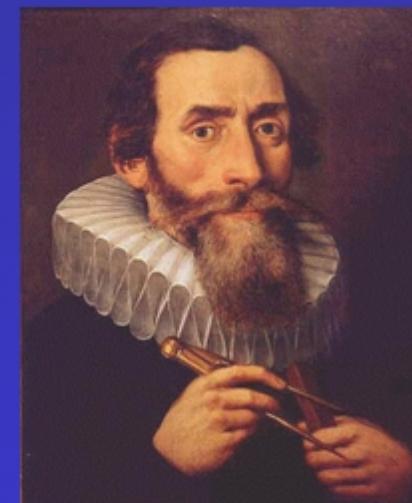
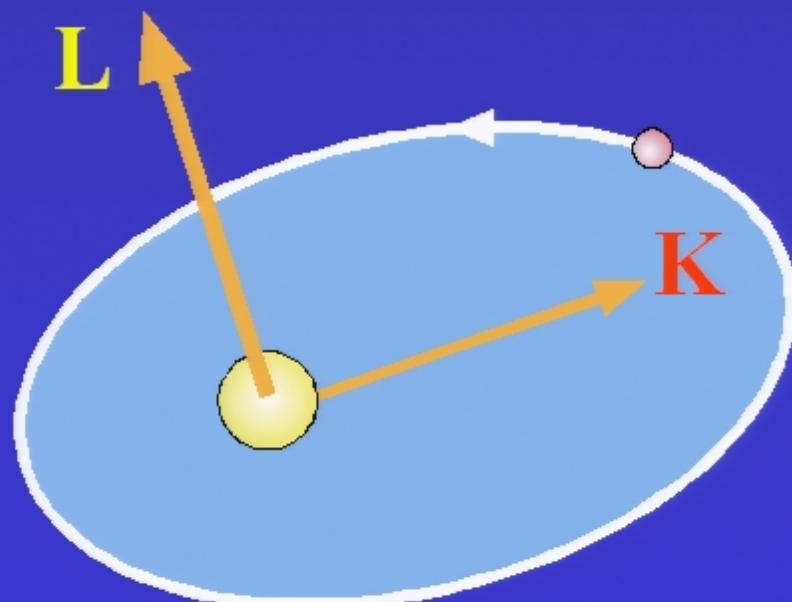
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# Classical Mechanics

- Vectorial constants of motion in a classical Keplerian orbit:
  - Angular momentum.
  - Laplace-Runge-Lenz vector.



$$\mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{K} = 0$$

# Quantum elliptic states

Atomic states with the following properties:

- Eigenstates of the Hamiltonian.
- $|\psi|^2$  maximally localized on a classical elliptic trajectory. (elliptical “torus”).
- minimal fluctuations on  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{K}$ , i.e.  
minimal  $(\Delta \mathbf{L})^2 + (\Delta \mathbf{K})^2$ .



The Laplace-Runge-Lenz (LRL) operator is defined by

$$\mathbf{K} = (-2H)^{-1/2} [(\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{L} - \mathbf{L} \times \mathbf{p})/2 - \mathbf{r}/r]$$

where  $\mathbf{L}$  is the orbital angular momentum, and  $H$  is the Hamiltonian.

$\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{K}$  have the commutation relations of infinitesimal rotation generators in four dimensional Euclidian space:

$$[L_i, L_j] = i\epsilon_{ijk}L_k$$

$$[L_i, K_j] = i\epsilon_{ijk}K_k$$

$$[K_i, K_j] = i\epsilon_{ijk}L_k$$

L,K → Generators of SO(4) rotation group.



- As in a classical Keplerian orbit:  $\mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{K} = \mathbf{K} \cdot \mathbf{L} = 0$ .
- For energy eigenstates:  $\mathbf{L}^2 + \mathbf{K}^2 = 1 - 1/2H = n^2 - 1$ .
- Define:  $\mathbf{J}_1 = (\mathbf{L} - \mathbf{K})/2$ ,  $\mathbf{J}_2 = (\mathbf{L} + \mathbf{K})/2$ .
- $\mathbf{J}_1, \mathbf{J}_2$  have the commutation relations of two independent three dimensional angular momentum operators.

$$\mathrm{SO}(4) = \mathrm{SO}(3) \otimes \mathrm{SO}(3)$$

- For energy eigenstates:  $\mathbf{J}_1^2 = \mathbf{J}_2^2 = (n^2 - 1)/4$ .



## Coherent States of SO(3)

Coherent states of 3D angular momentum obey:

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{J} |J, \mathbf{u}\rangle = j |J, \mathbf{u}\rangle$$

These states have **minimal dispersion**:  $\Delta \mathbf{J} = \sqrt{\langle \mathbf{J}^2 \rangle - \langle \mathbf{J} \rangle^2} = \sqrt{j}$ .

Coherent states of SO(3) are obtained by a rotation of a fiducial coherent state, which is an eigenstate of  $J_z$

$$|J, \mathbf{u}(\theta, \phi)\rangle = e^{-iL_z\phi} e^{-iL_z\theta} |jj\rangle.$$



# Quantum elliptic states = coherent states of $\text{SO}(4)$

- $\text{SO}(4)$  coherent states are obtained as a direct product of two  $\text{SO}(3)$  subgroups coherent states

$$|n, \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{u}_2\rangle = |J_1, \mathbf{u}_1\rangle \otimes |J_2, \mathbf{u}_2\rangle, \quad j_1 = j_2 = (n-1)/2.$$

- For these states, the dispersion of  $\mathbf{L}^2 + \mathbf{K}^2$  is minimal:

$$(\Delta \mathbf{L})^2 + (\Delta \mathbf{K})^2 = (\Delta \mathbf{J}_1)^2 + (\Delta \mathbf{J}_2)^2 = 2(n-1).$$



# Corresponding classical orbit

Define the following unit vectors:

$$\mathbf{l} = \frac{\mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_2}{|\mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_2|}, \quad \mathbf{k} = \frac{\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{u}_2}{|\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{u}_2|}, \quad \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{l}.$$

The expectation values of the components of  $\mathbf{K}$  and  $\mathbf{L}$  along the directions of  $\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\mathbf{l}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  are

$$\langle K_k \rangle = (n-1) \sin \zeta, \quad \text{where } \langle K_k \rangle = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{K}, \text{ etc.}$$

$$\langle L_l \rangle = (n-1) \cos \zeta.$$

$\zeta$  = Half the angle between  $\mathbf{u}_1$  and  $\mathbf{u}_2$



- In the perpendicular directions the expectation values vanish:

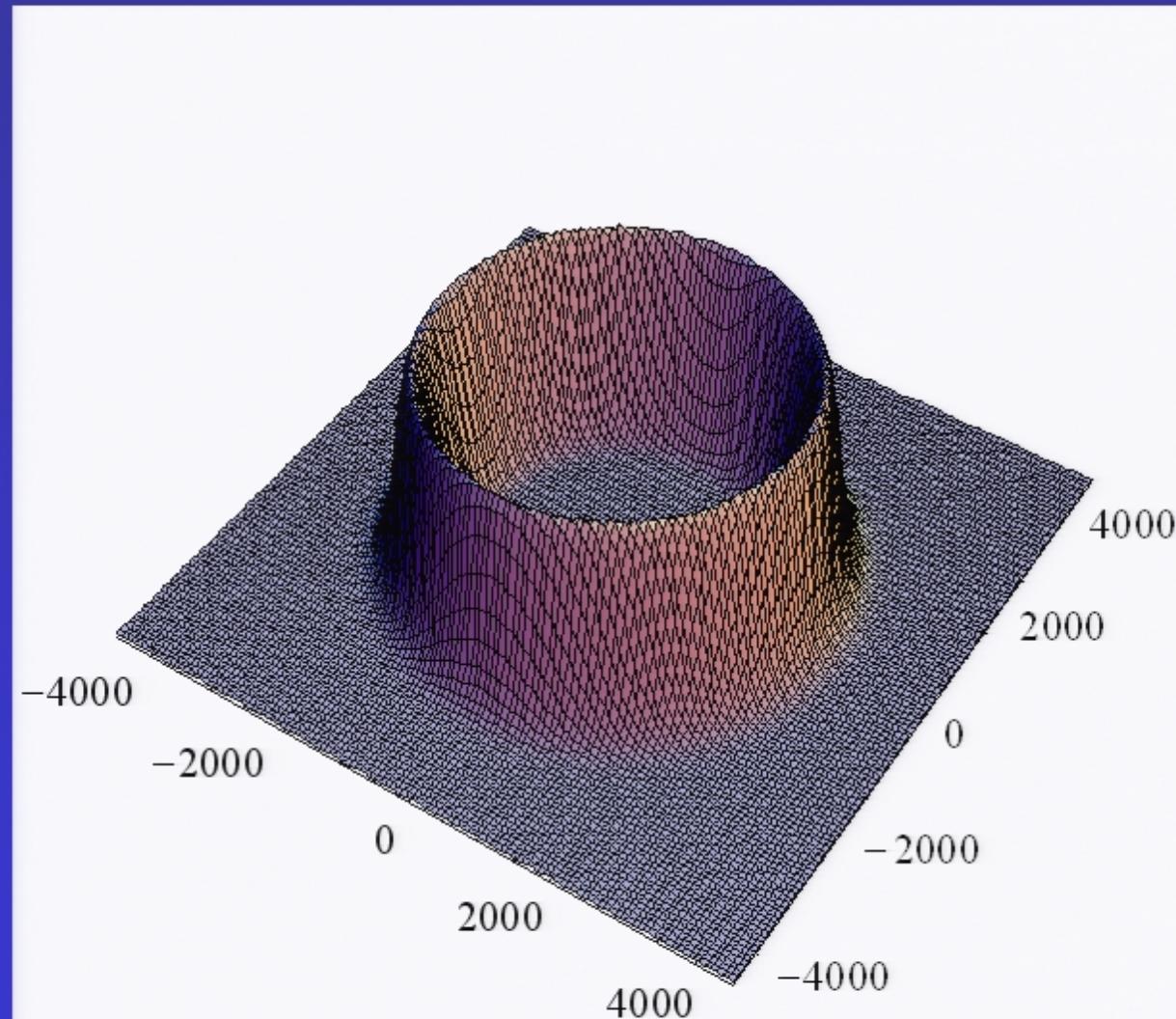
$$\langle K_{\perp} \rangle = \langle L_k \rangle = \langle K_w \rangle = \langle L_w \rangle = 0.$$

- The coherent state  $|n, \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{u}_2\rangle$  corresponds to a classical orbit in the  $\mathbf{k}\mathbf{w}$  plane with
  - major axis in the  $\mathbf{k}$  direction,
  - angular momentum in the  $\perp$  direction,
  - eccentricity  $e = \sin \zeta$ .



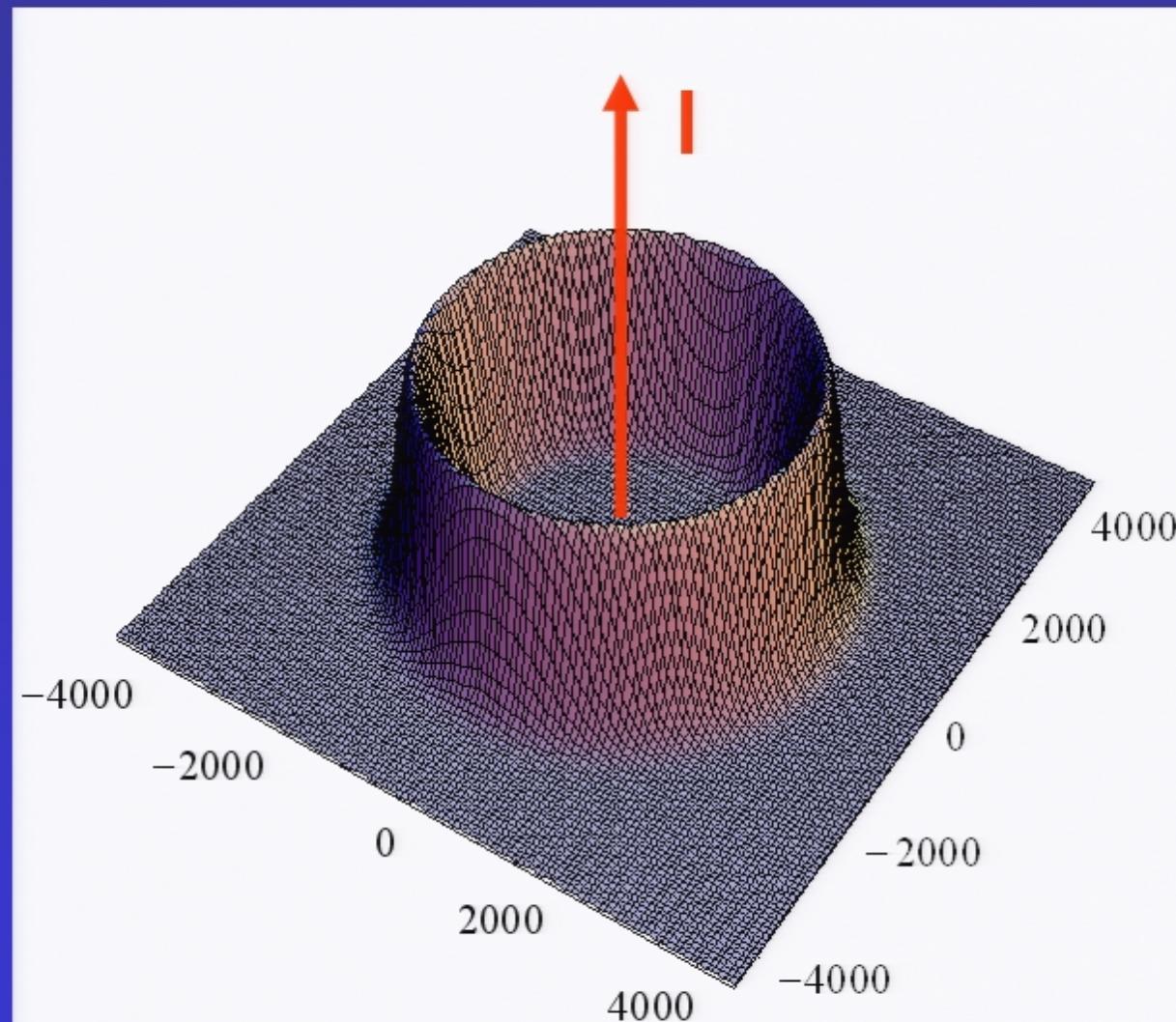
# Circular state, $xy$ -plane

$|\psi|^2$  for  $n=50$ ,  $e=0$ ,  $\mathbf{l}=\mathbf{z}$



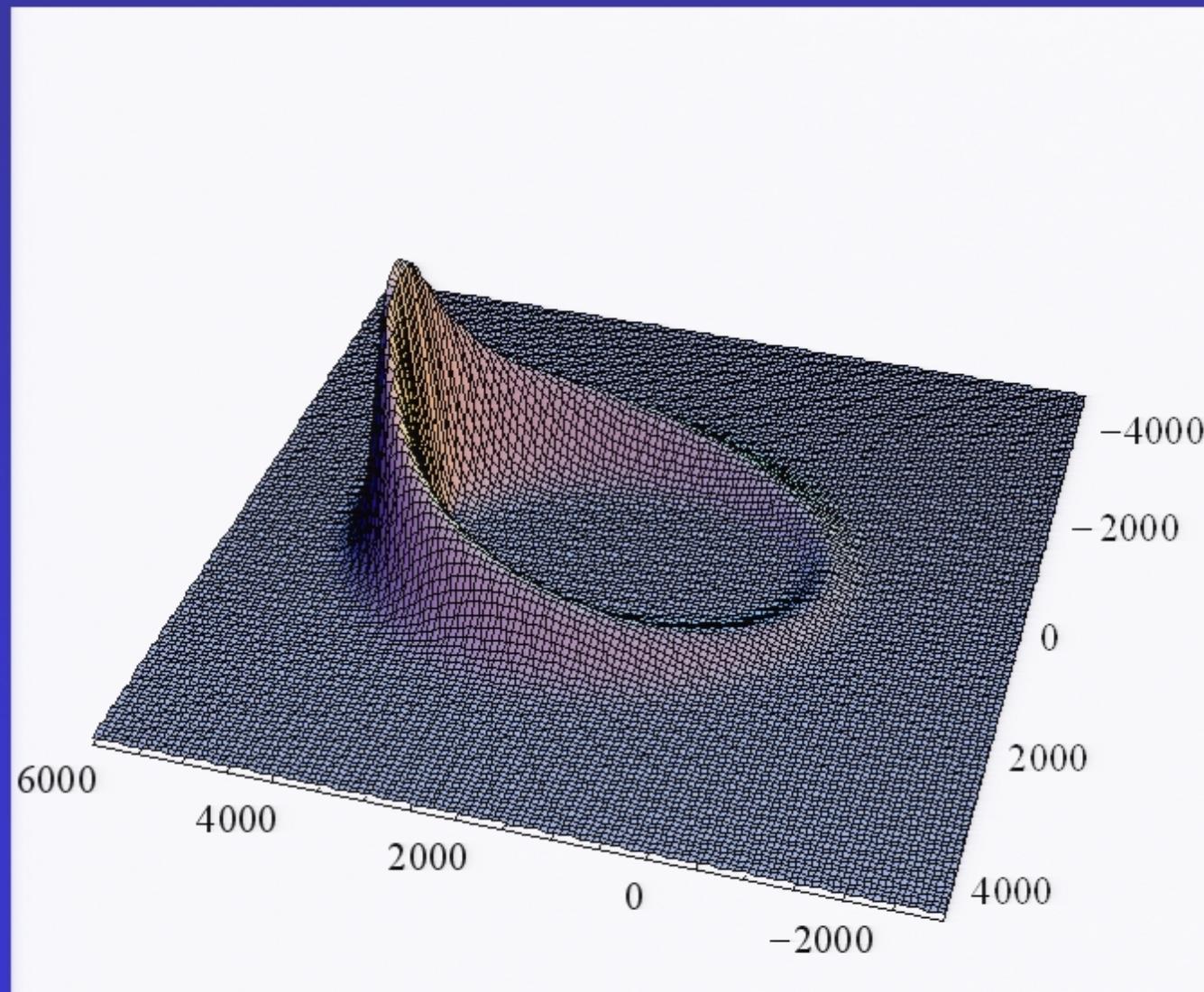
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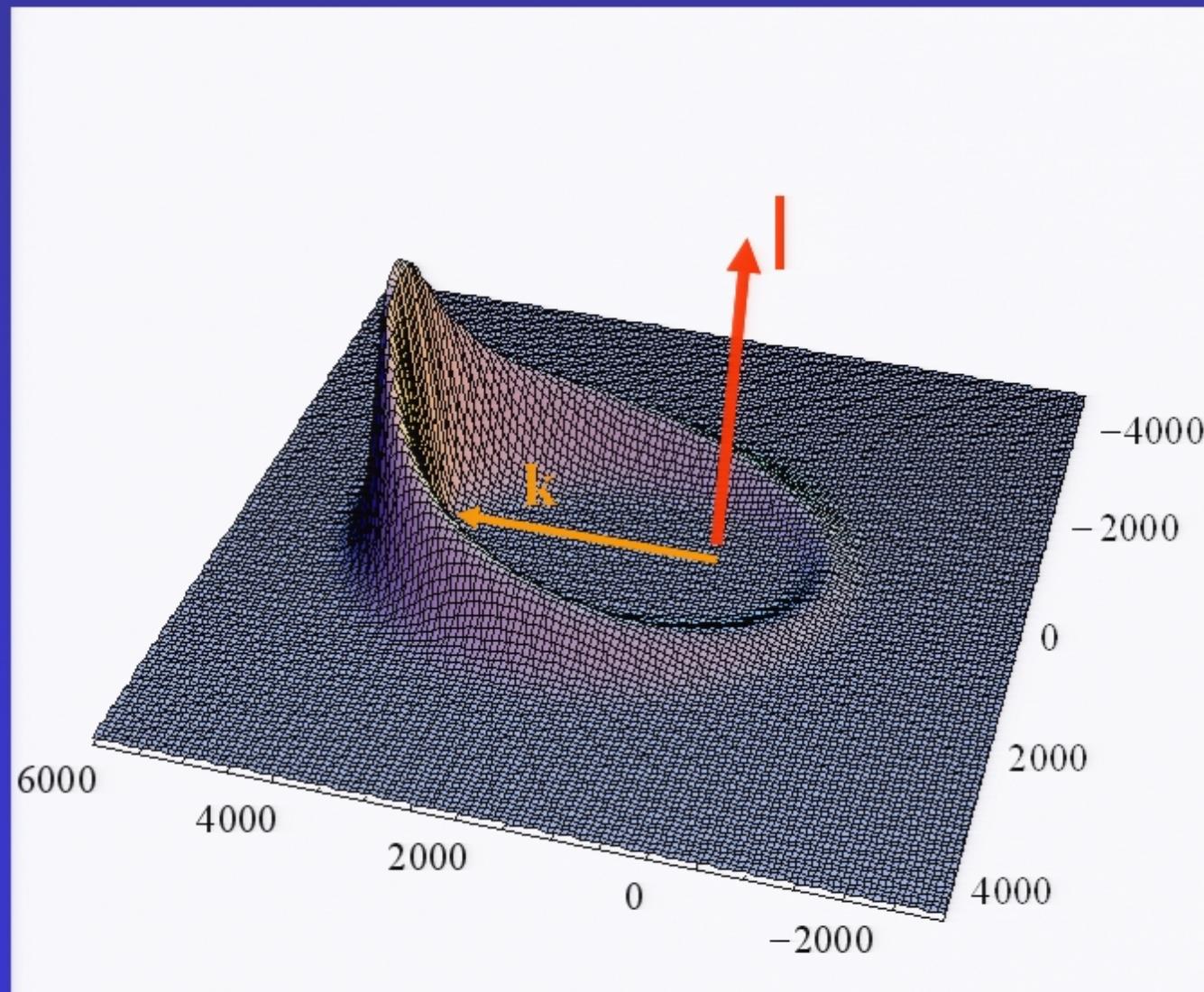
# Generic elliptic state, $xy$ -plane

$|\psi|^2$  for  $n=50$ ,  $e=0.7$ ,  $\mathbf{k}=\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{l}=\mathbf{z}$



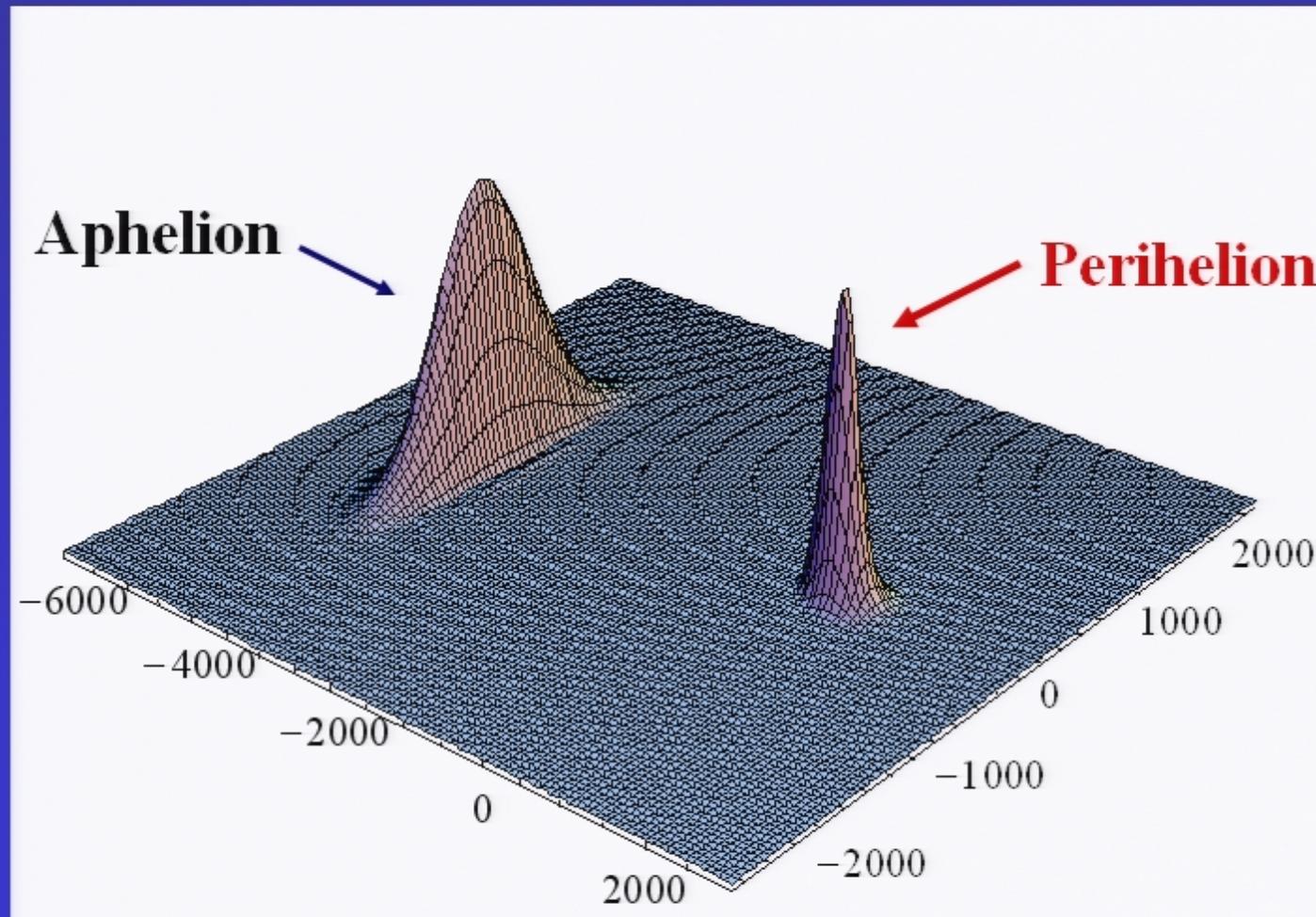
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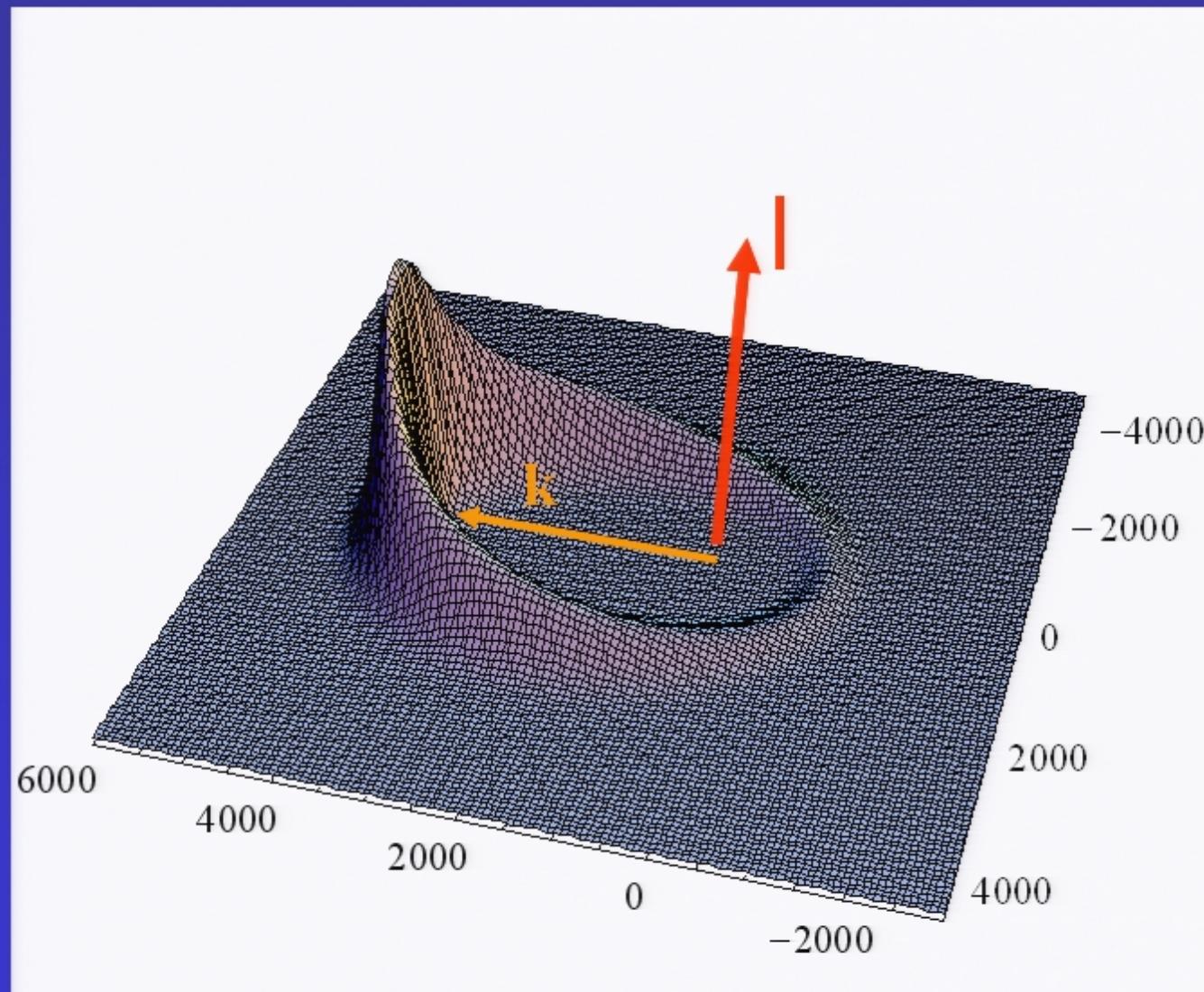
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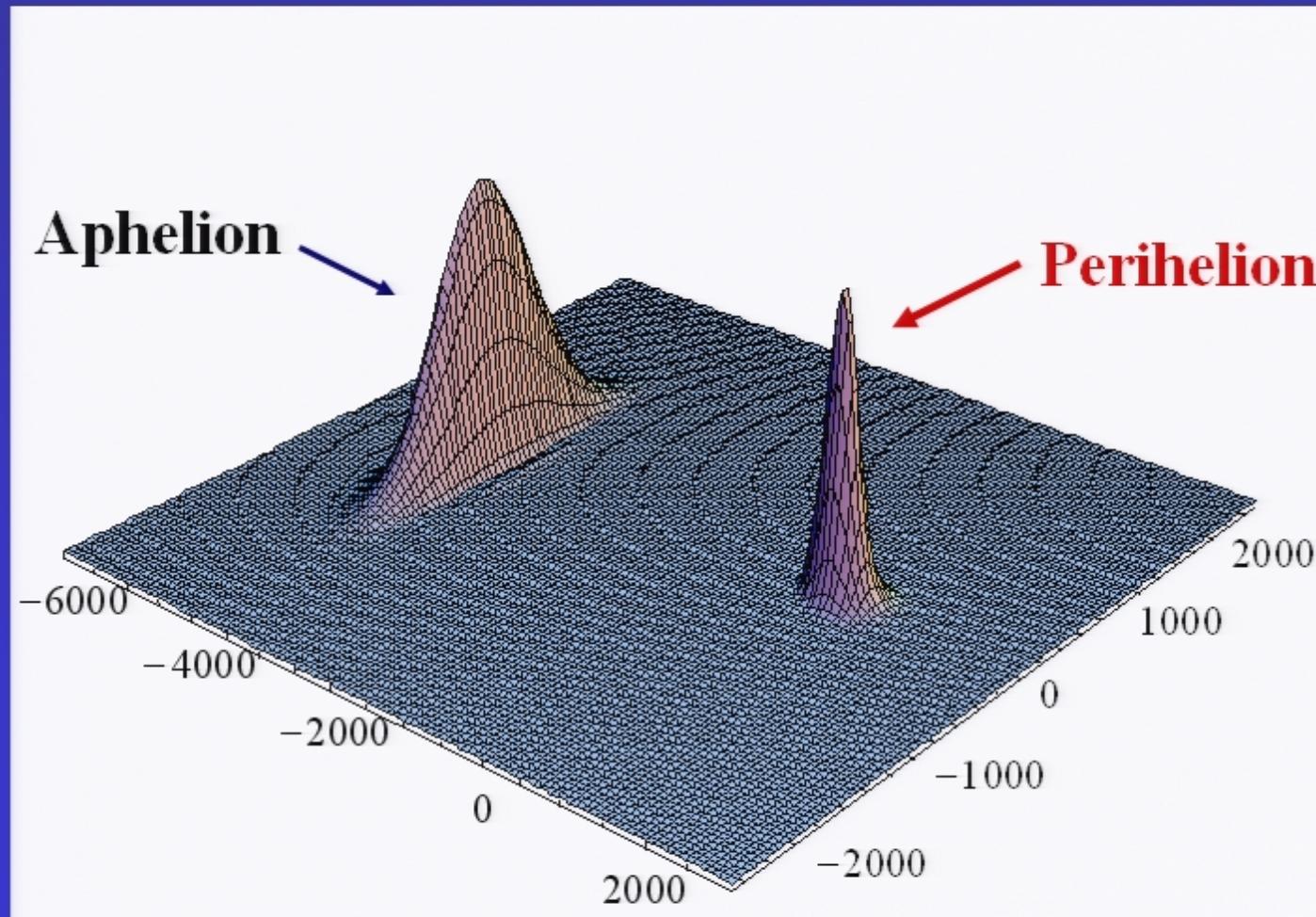
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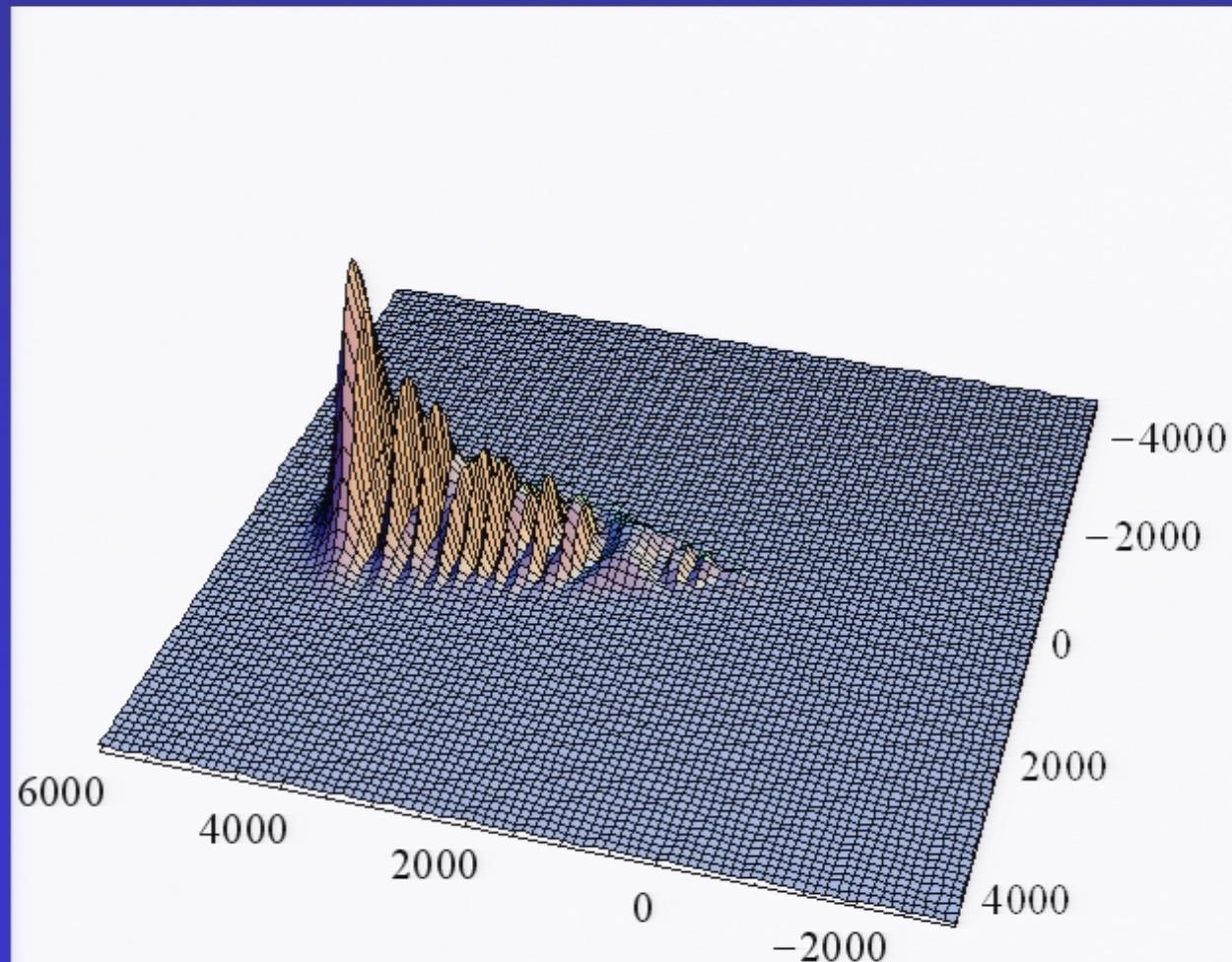
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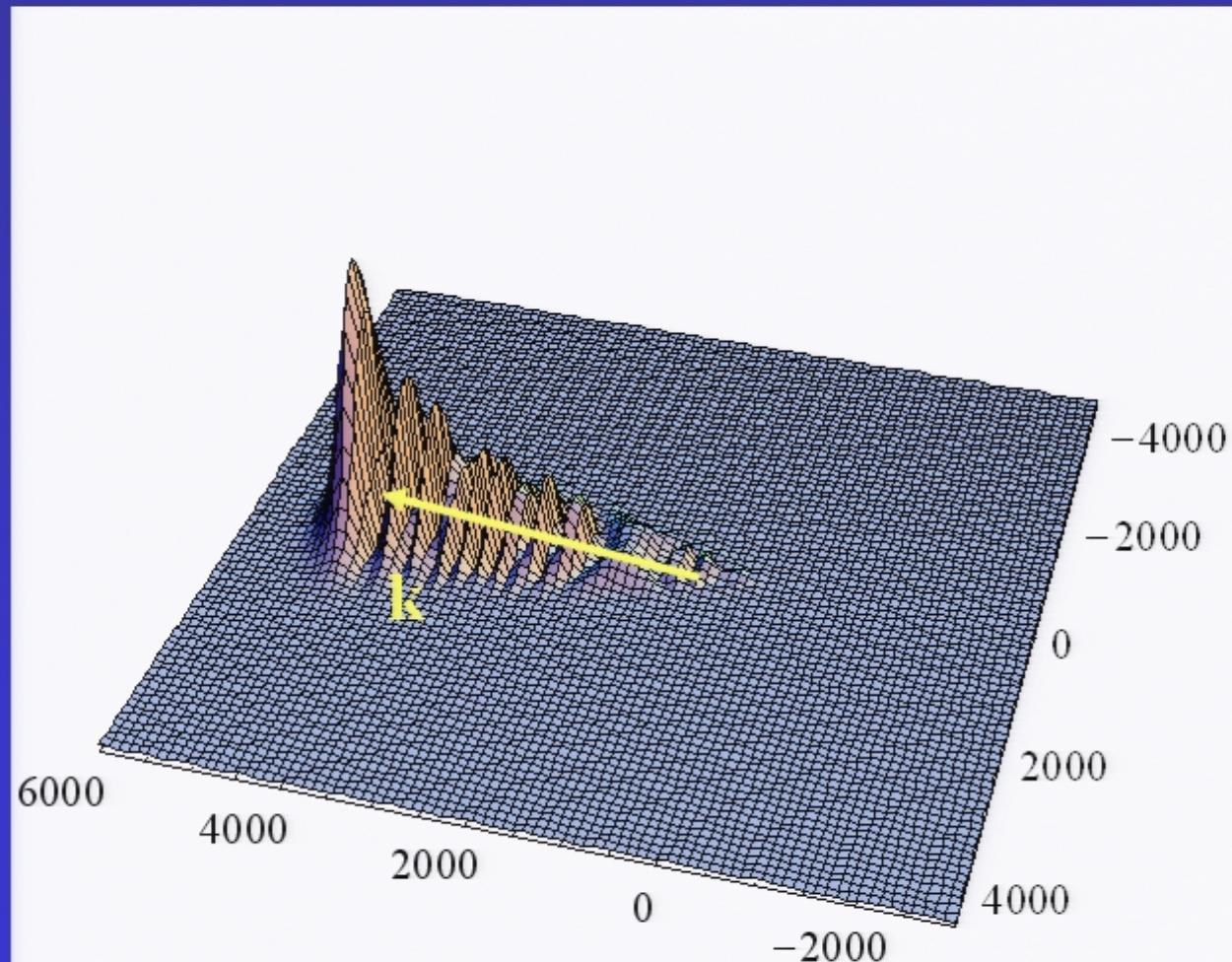
# Extreme Stark state, $xy$ -plane

## $|\psi|^2$ for $e=1$ , $k=x$



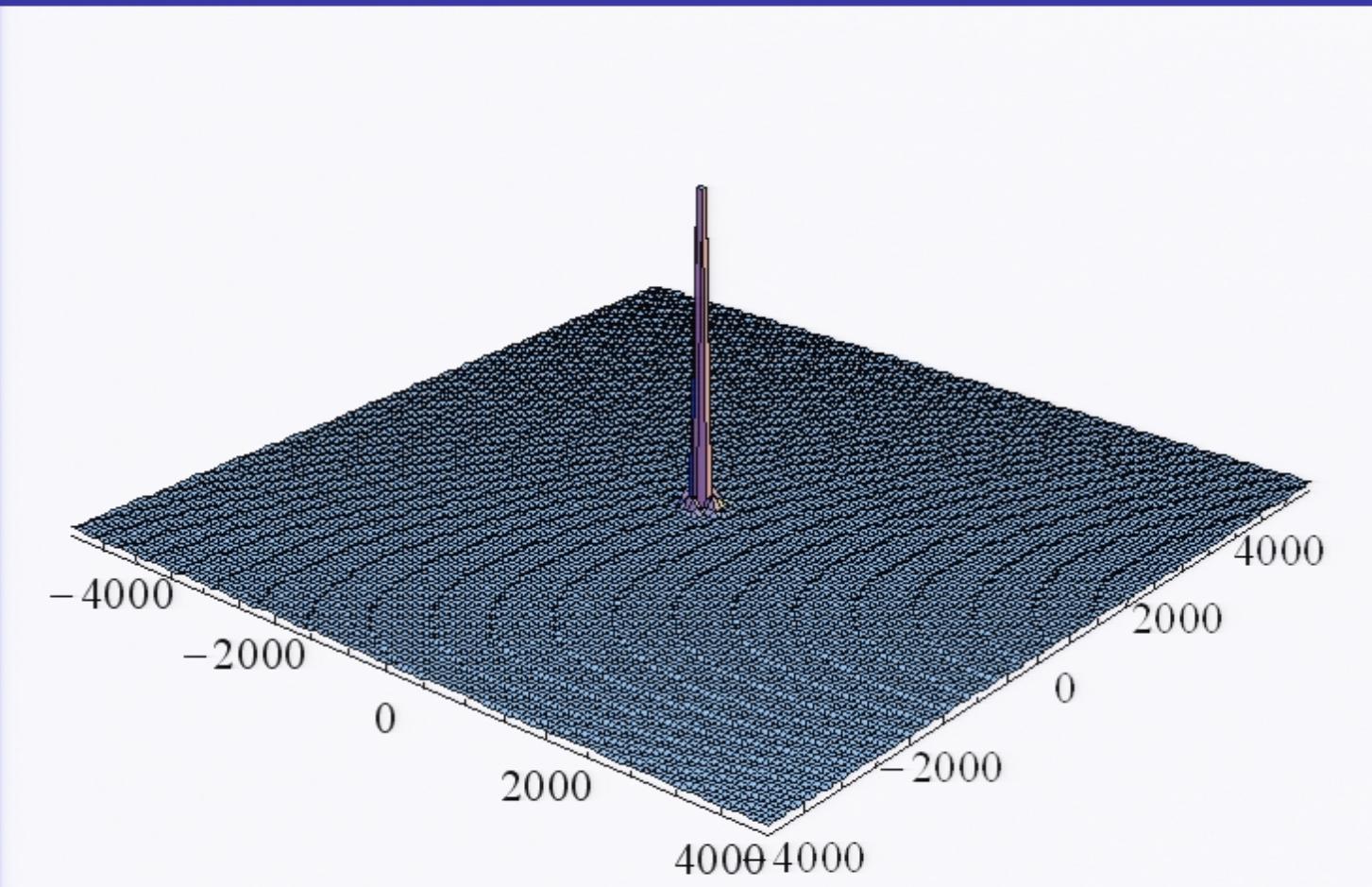
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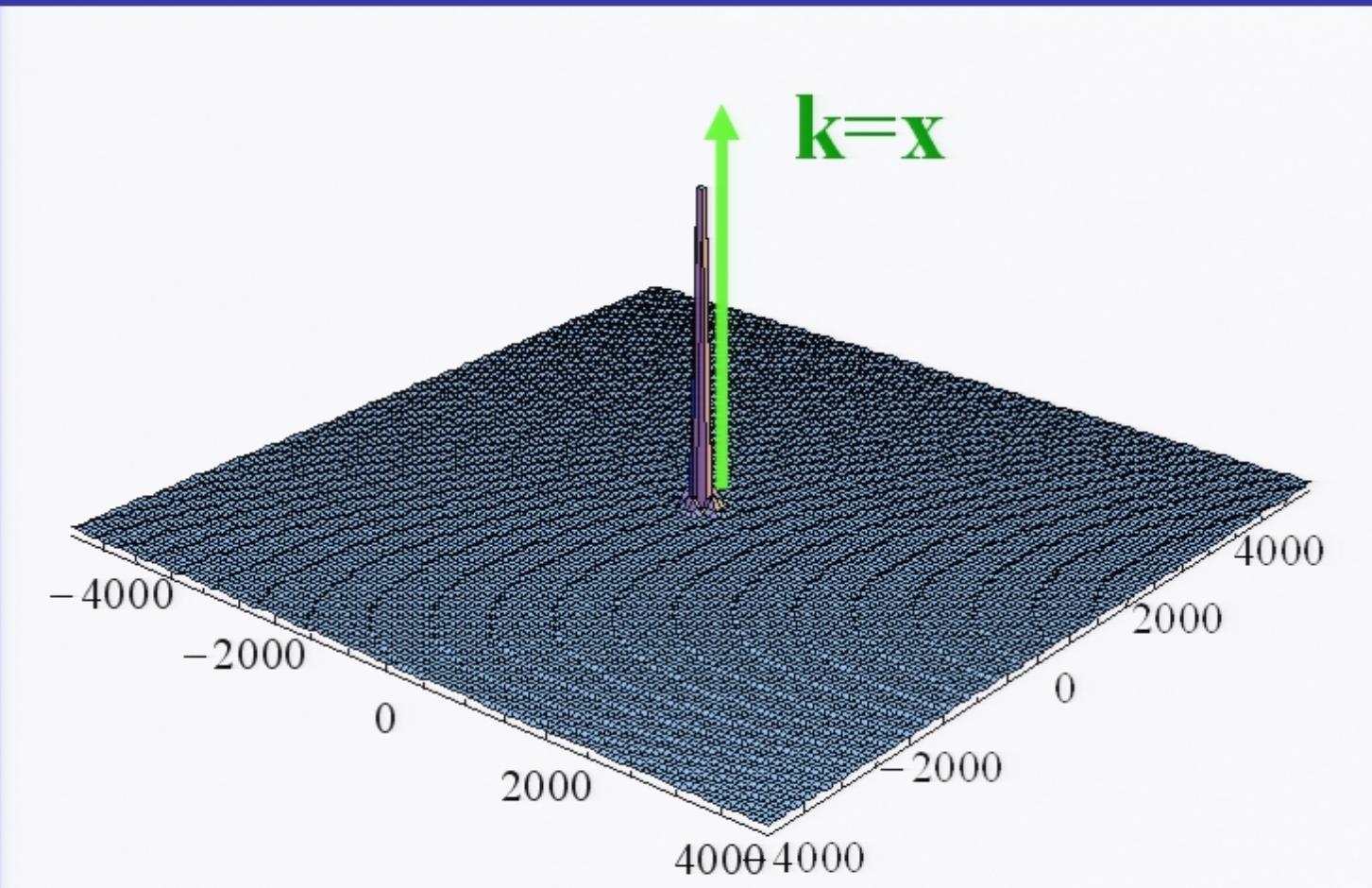
# Extreme Stark state, $zy$ -plane

$|\psi|^2$  for  $n=50$ ,  $e=1$ ,  $k=x$



## Extreme Stark state, $zy$ -plane

$|\psi|^2$  for  $n=50$ ,  $e=1$ ,  $k=x$



# Transmission of One Direction

- Taking the transmitted direction to be Alice's  $z$ -axis

$$\langle \cos \omega_z \rangle = \int d_{\alpha\beta\gamma} |\langle A | U(\alpha\beta\gamma) | B \rangle|^2 \cos \beta.$$

- Consider the following cases:

- Circular State:  $e = 0, \mathbf{l} = \mathbf{z}, \langle \mathbf{K} \rangle = 0$

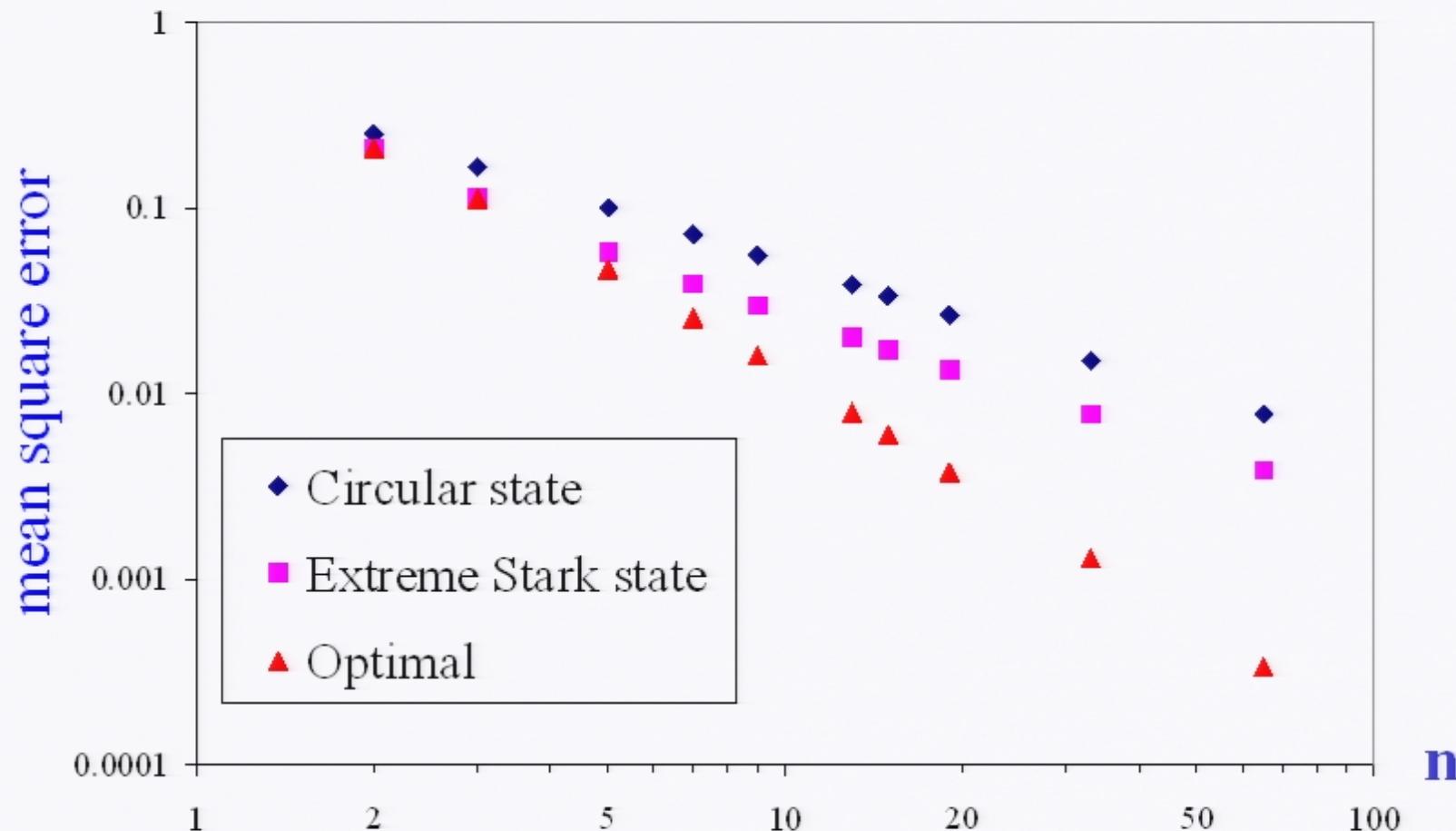
$$|A\rangle = |ll\rangle = |jj\rangle \otimes |jj\rangle$$

- Extreme Stark State:  $e = 1, \mathbf{k} = \mathbf{z}, \langle \mathbf{L} \rangle = 0$

$$|A\rangle = |j, -j\rangle \otimes |jj\rangle$$



## Comparison of the mean square error $l-F$ to the optimal one



# Transmission of two directions

- We choose for Alice an elliptic state with  $\mathbf{k}=\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{l}=\mathbf{y}$ , and eccentricity  $0 < e < 1$ . The optimal eccentricity should be

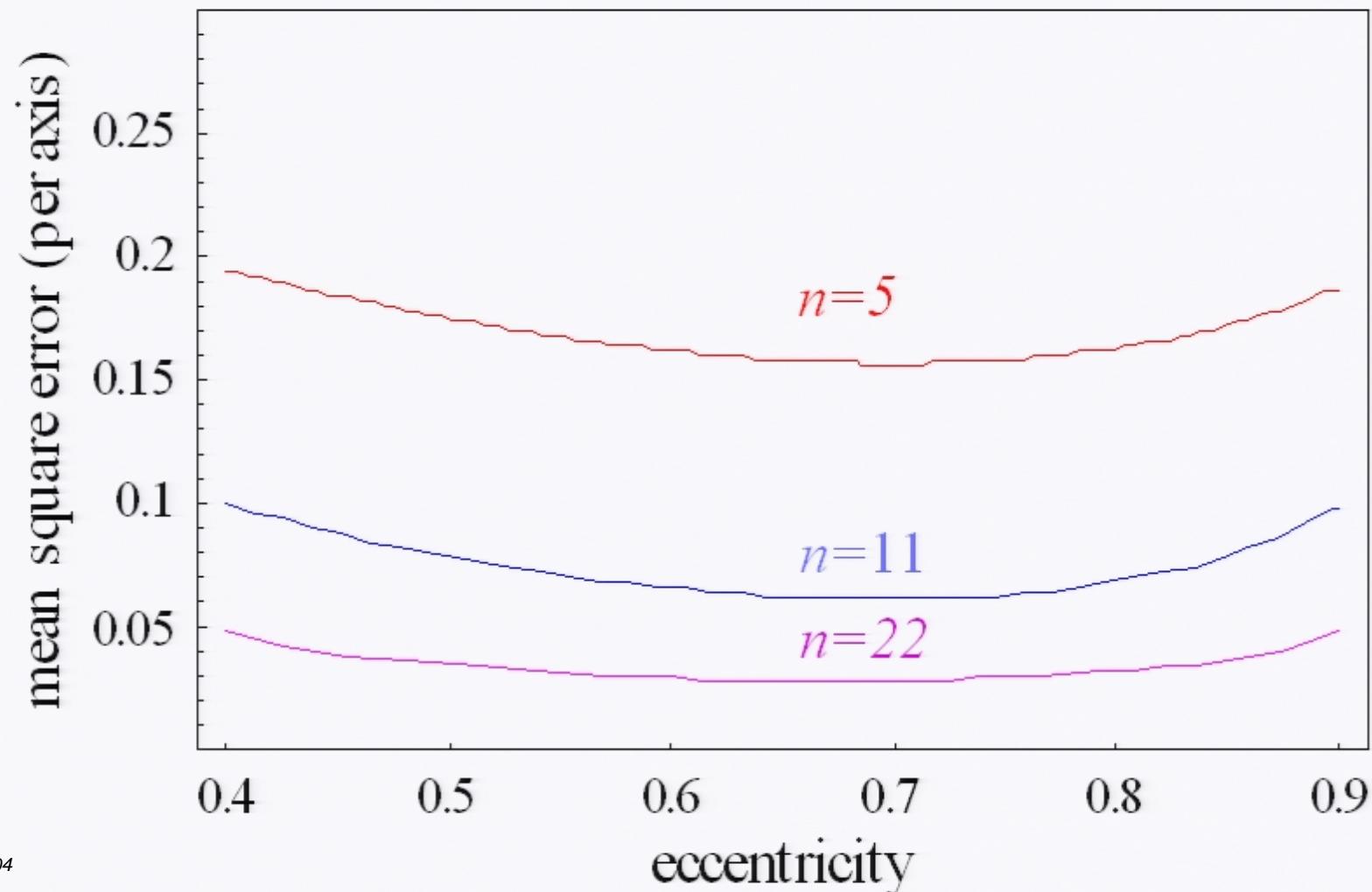
$$\frac{\Delta K_{\perp}}{\langle K_k \rangle} = \frac{\Delta L_{\perp}}{\langle L_l \rangle} \Rightarrow e \approx 1/\sqrt{2}.$$

- To calculate the fidelity for the transmission of the  $x$  and  $y$  axes we need to calculate

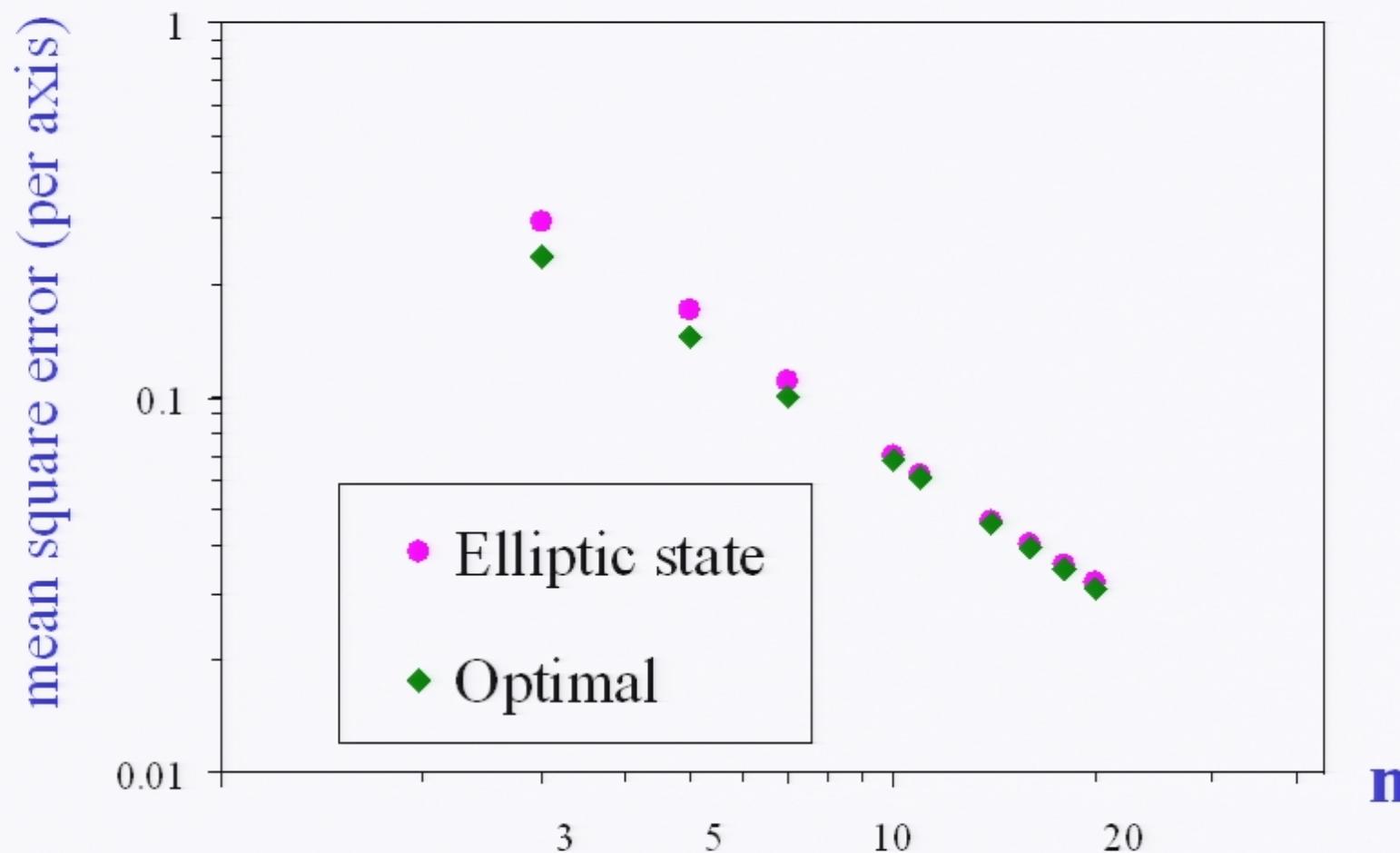
$$\langle \cos \omega_x + \cos \omega_y \rangle = \langle (1 + \cos \beta)(\cos \alpha + \cos \gamma) \rangle.$$



## Mean square error vs. eccentricity for $n=5$ , $n=11$ , $n=22$

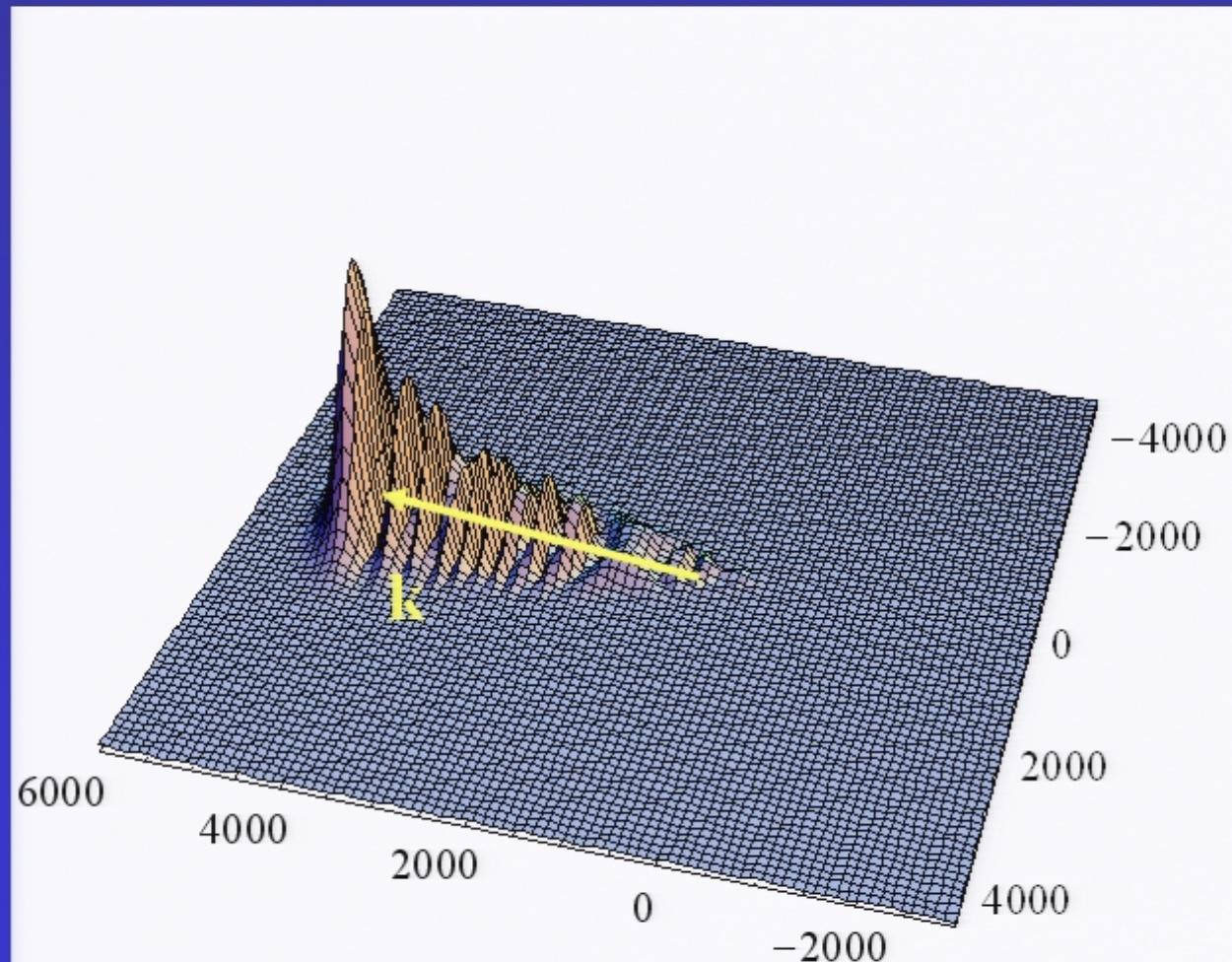


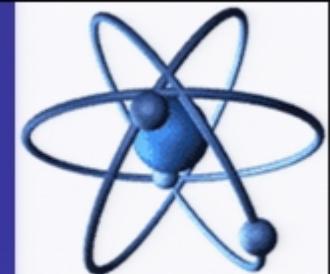
## Comparison with the optimal transmission



# Extreme Stark state, $xy$ -plane

$|\psi|^2$  for  $e=1$ ,  $k=x$





# The experimental situation

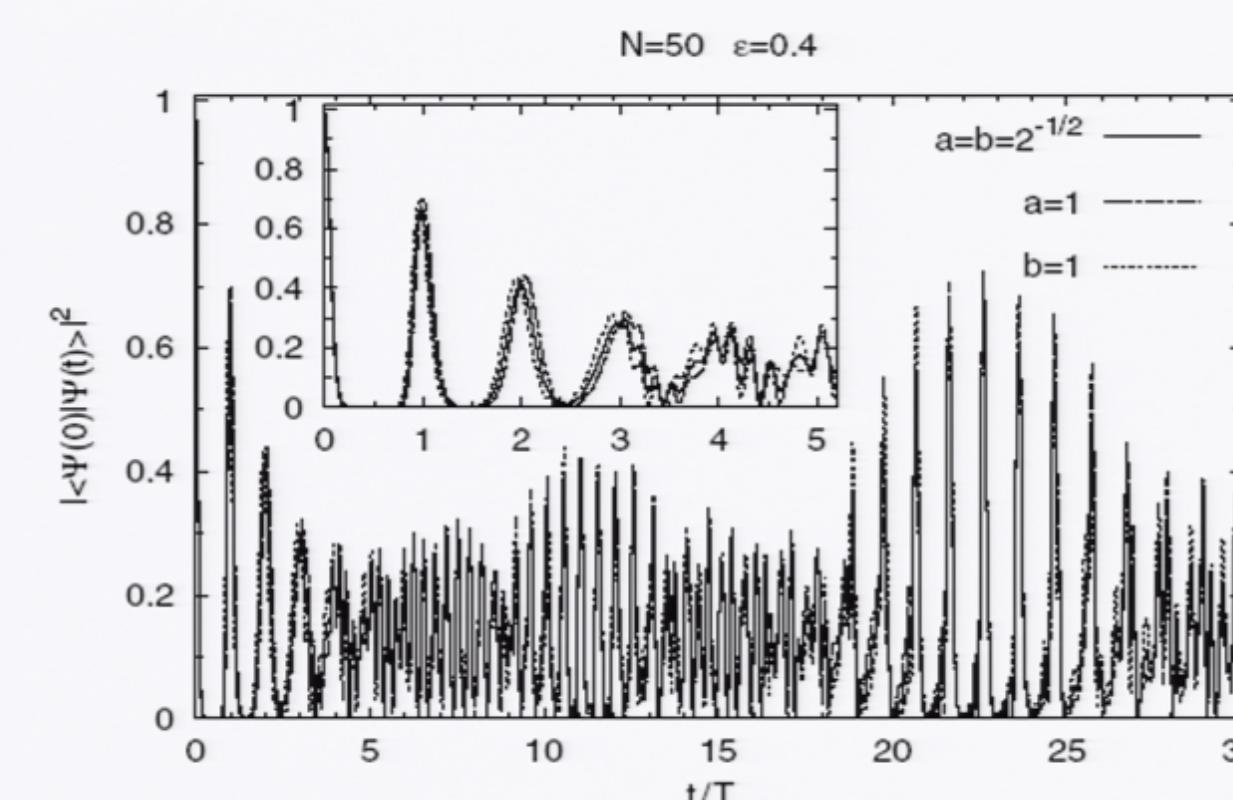
- Elliptic Rydberg states can be produced by exiting atoms in external orthogonal electric and magnetic field. J.C. Day et al, PRL. 72 (1994)
- Relativistic effects:  
Energy depends on  $l$ , causes precession of the elliptic state. P. Rozmej et al, J. Phys A. 35 (2002)



$$E_{nlj} = E - \frac{Z^4 \alpha^2}{2n^3(l+s+1/2)} \quad j = l+s$$

$$T_p = \frac{2\pi}{\left\langle \frac{dE_{nlj}}{dl} \right\rangle} \quad T_p = \frac{4\pi n^3 [(n-1)\cos\zeta]^2}{Z^4 \alpha^2}$$

P. Rozmej et al, J. Phys. A **35**, 7803 (2002)

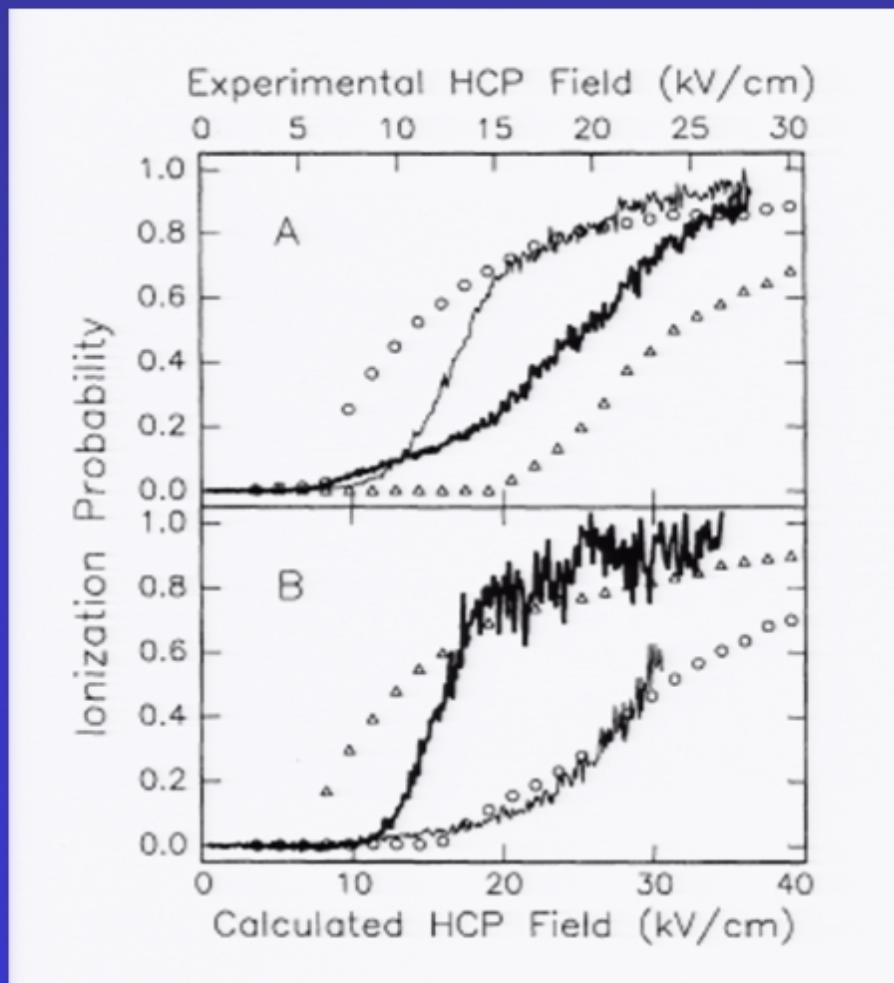


# Characteristic Time Scales

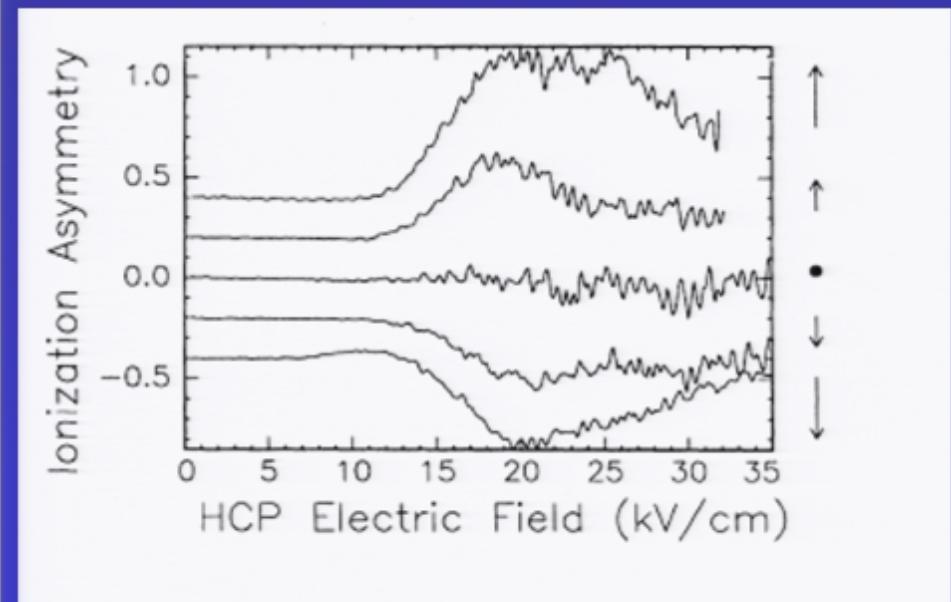
- For Z=1 :  $T_p \approx 1.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ sec}$
- Spontaneous decay:  $\frac{T_{n,l}^{rad}}{T_p} = \frac{3}{8\pi\alpha} \approx 16.3$



# Probing the orientation of Rydberg states by an ionization pulse

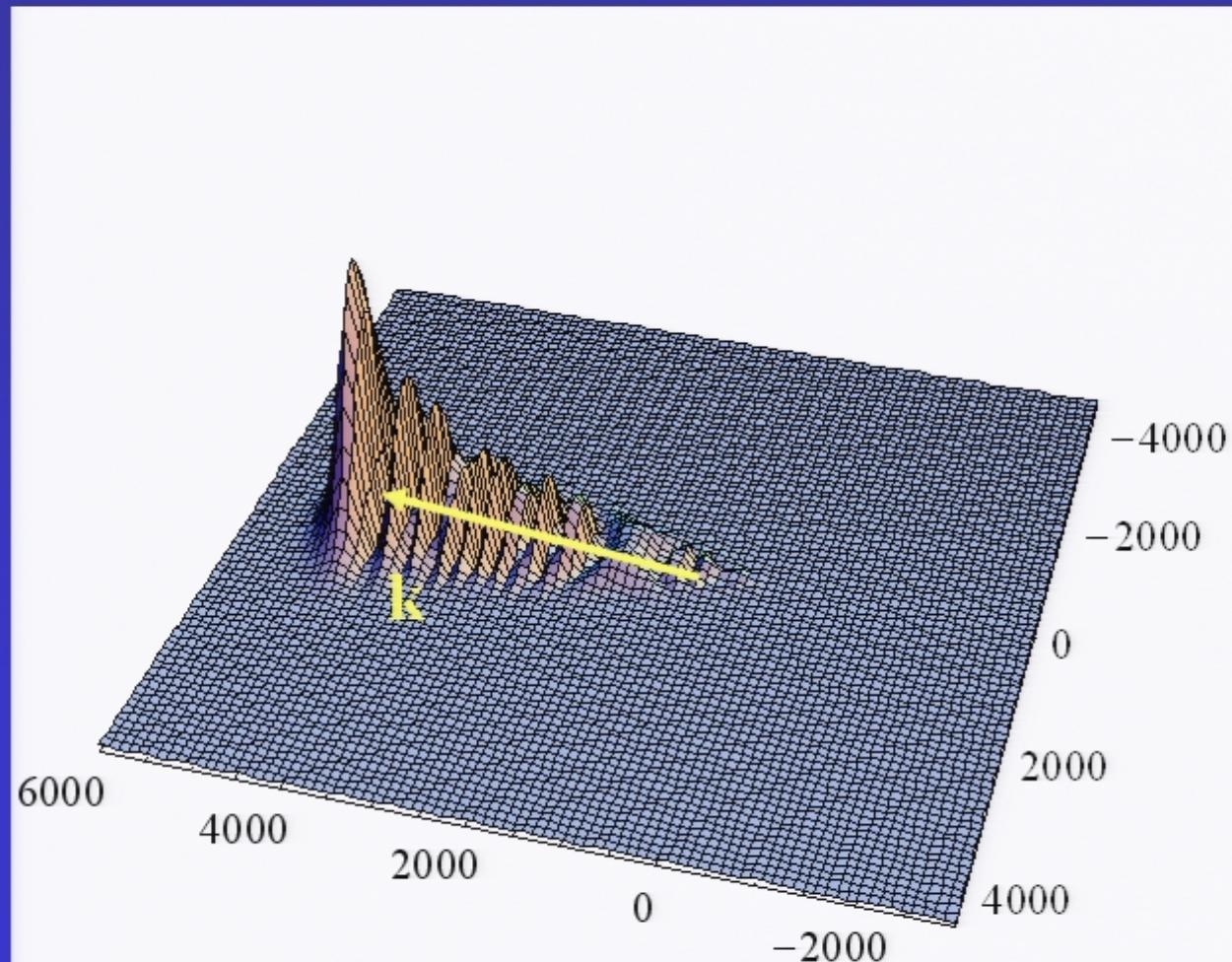


Jones et al, PRA 51 2687 (1995)

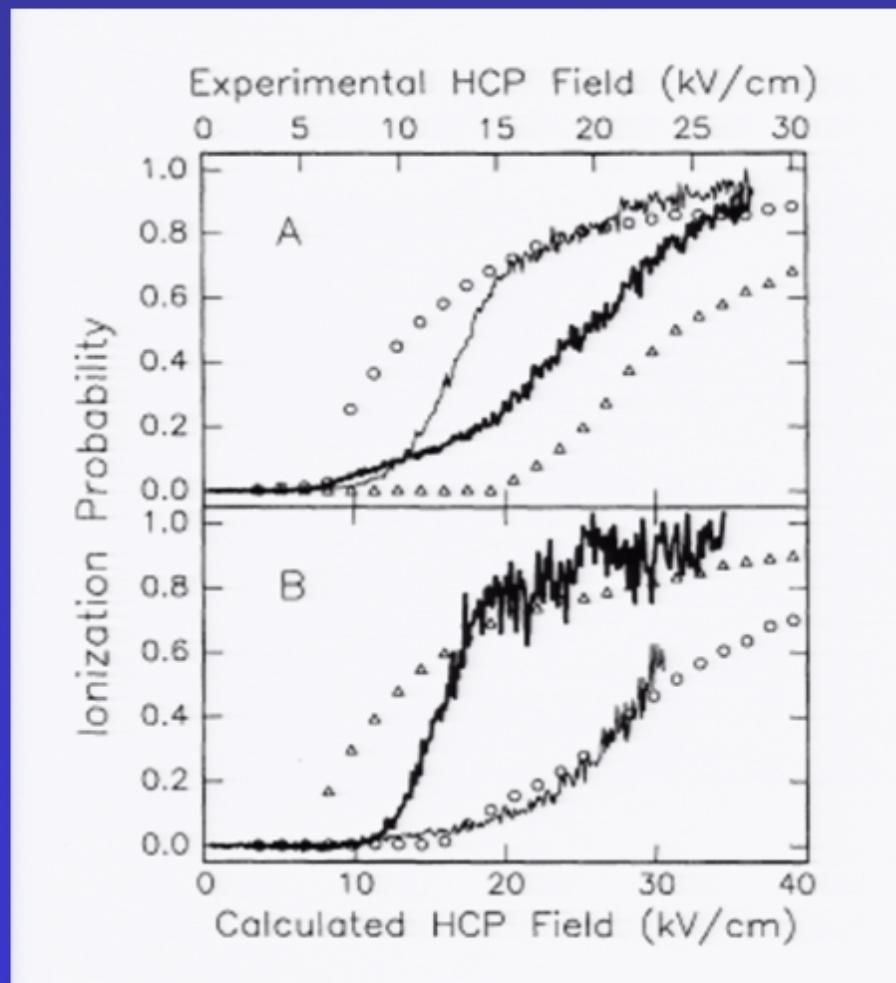


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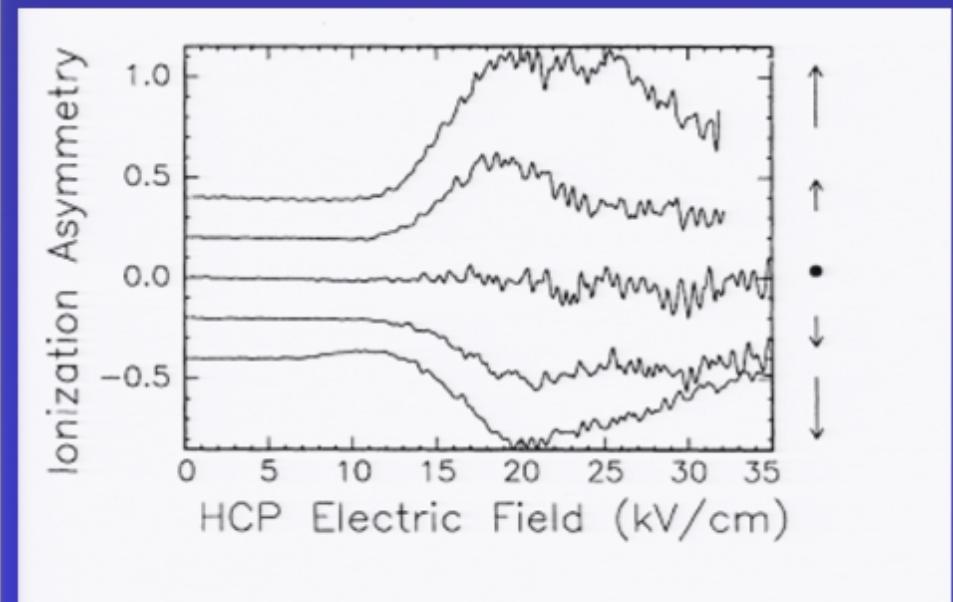
## $|\psi|^2$ for $e=1$ , $k=x$



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# Summary

- For transmission of one direction, LRL vector is better than angular momentum.
- Elliptic states are not optimal for transmission of one axis, but are nearly optimal for frames.
- They are practical.



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## Outline Slides

magnetic field. J.C. Day et al,  
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Relativistic effects: •  
Energy depends on  $\vec{l}$ , causes  
precession of the elliptic state.  
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### Characteristic Time Scales

For  $Z=1$ : •

Spontaneous decay: •

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My Computer

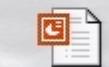
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NETANEL'S  
BRIEFCASE

XP-pr setup

SSH Secure  
Shell Client

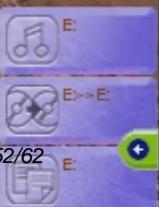
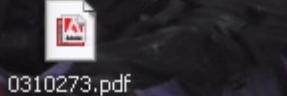
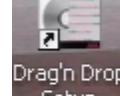
AdobeRdr60...

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SSH Secure File  
Transfer ClientAdobe  
Photoshop...Microsoft  
OutlookWindows Media  
Player5550 printer  
assistant

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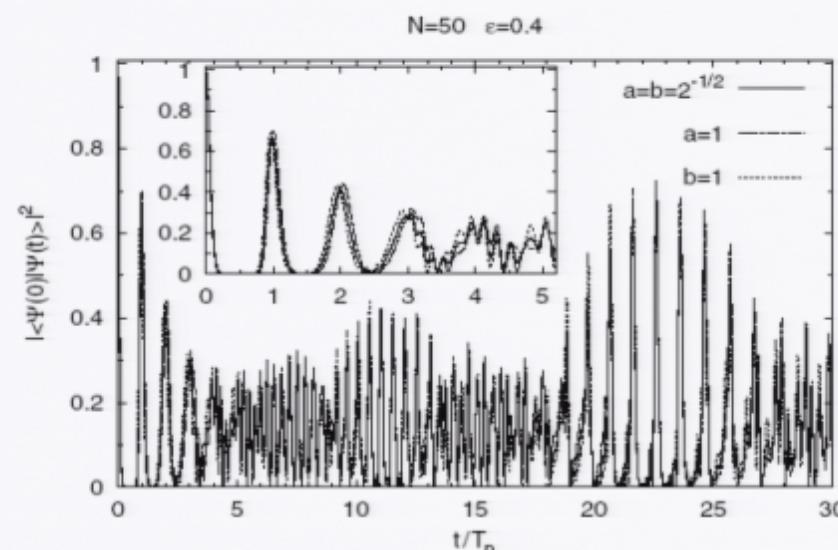
Elliptic states are not optimal for transmission of one axis, but are nearly optimal for frames.

They are practical.

$$E_{nlj} = E - \frac{Z^4 \alpha^2}{2n^3(l+s+1/2)} \quad j = l+s$$

$$T_p = \frac{2\pi}{\left\langle \frac{dE_{nlj}}{dl} \right\rangle} \quad T_p = \frac{4\pi n^3 [(n-1)\cos\zeta]^2}{Z^4 \alpha^2}$$

P. Rozmej et al, J. Phys. A 35, 7803 (2002)



## Outline Slides

magnetic field. J.C. Day et al,  
PRL 72 (1994)

Relativistic effects: •  
Energy depends on l, causes  
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P. Rozmej et al, J. Phys A. 35  
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31

## Characteristic Time Scales

For Z=1 : •

Spontaneous decay: •

## Probing the orientation of Rydberg states

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Rydberg states

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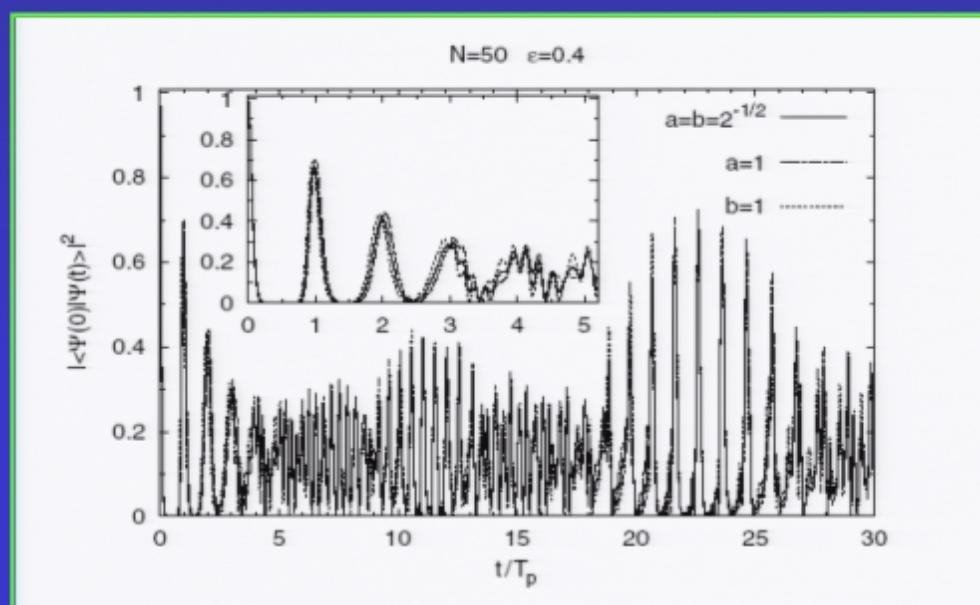
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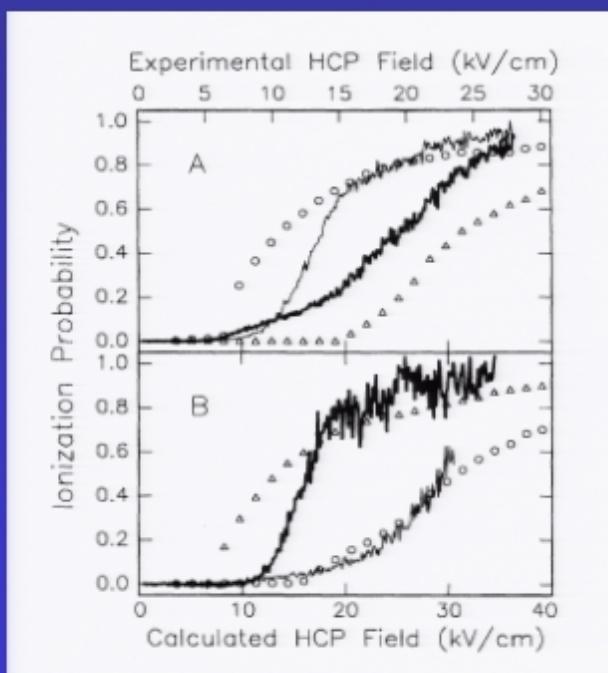
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32

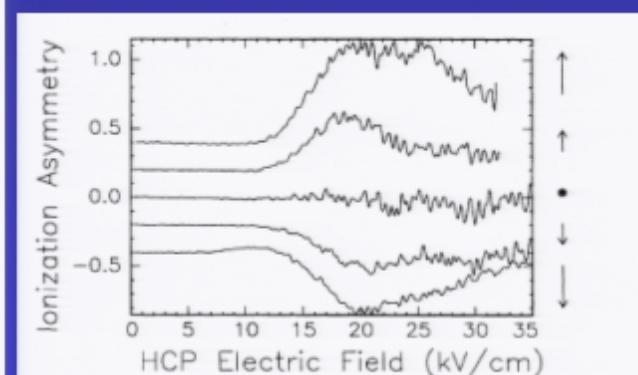
33

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# Probing the orientation of Rydberg states by an ionization pulse



Jones et al, PRA 51 2687 (1995)



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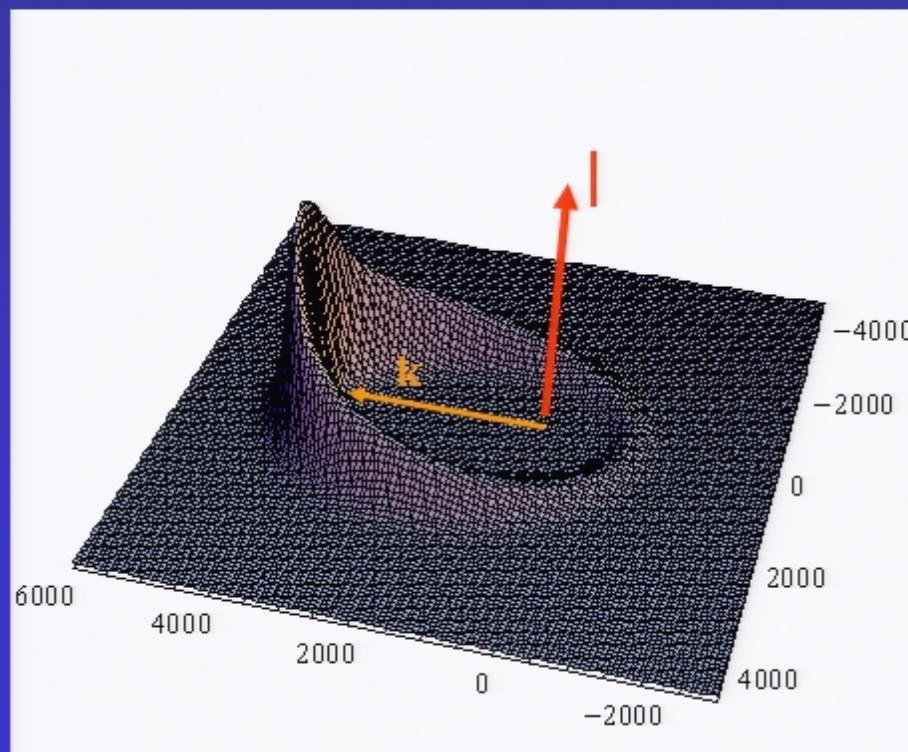
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33

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## Generic elliptic state, $xy$ -plane

$|\psi|^2$  for  $n=50$ ,  $e=0.7$ ,  $k=x$ ,  $l=z$



### Outline Slides

Generic elliptic state,  $xy$ -plane 21

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Extreme Stark state,  $xy$ -plane 23

$|\psi|^2$  for  $e=1$ ,  $k=x$

Extreme Stark state,  $zy$ -plane 24

$|\psi|^2$  for  $n=50$ ,  $e=1$ ,  $k=x$

Transmission of One Direction 25

Taking the transmitted direction •  
to be Alice's z-axis

Consider the following cases: •

Comparison of the mean square 26

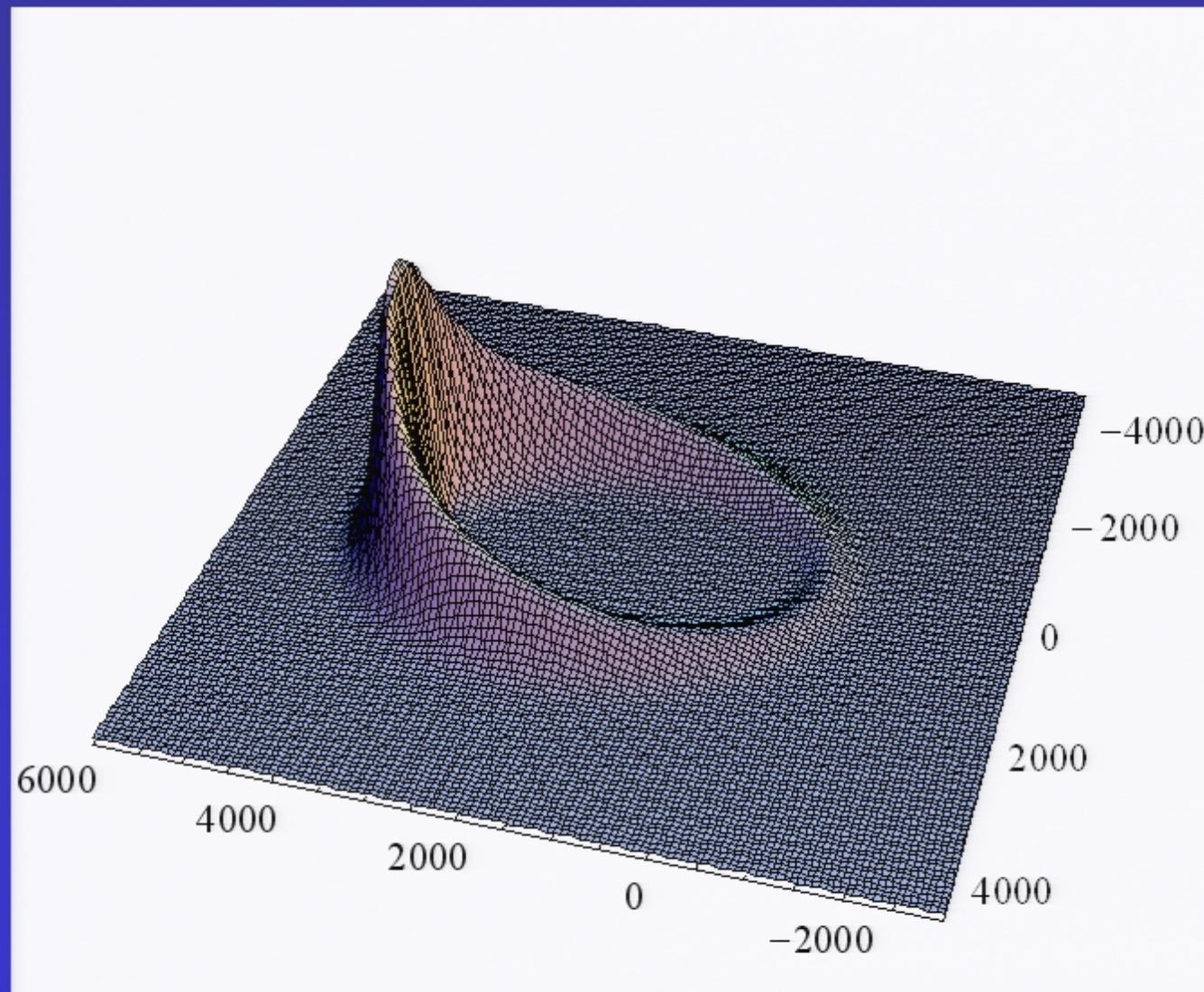
error  $1-F$  to the optimal one

Transmission of two directions 27

We choose for Alice an elliptic •  
state with  $k=x$ ,  $l=y$ , and  
eccentricity  $0 < e < 1$ . The optimal  
eccentricity should be

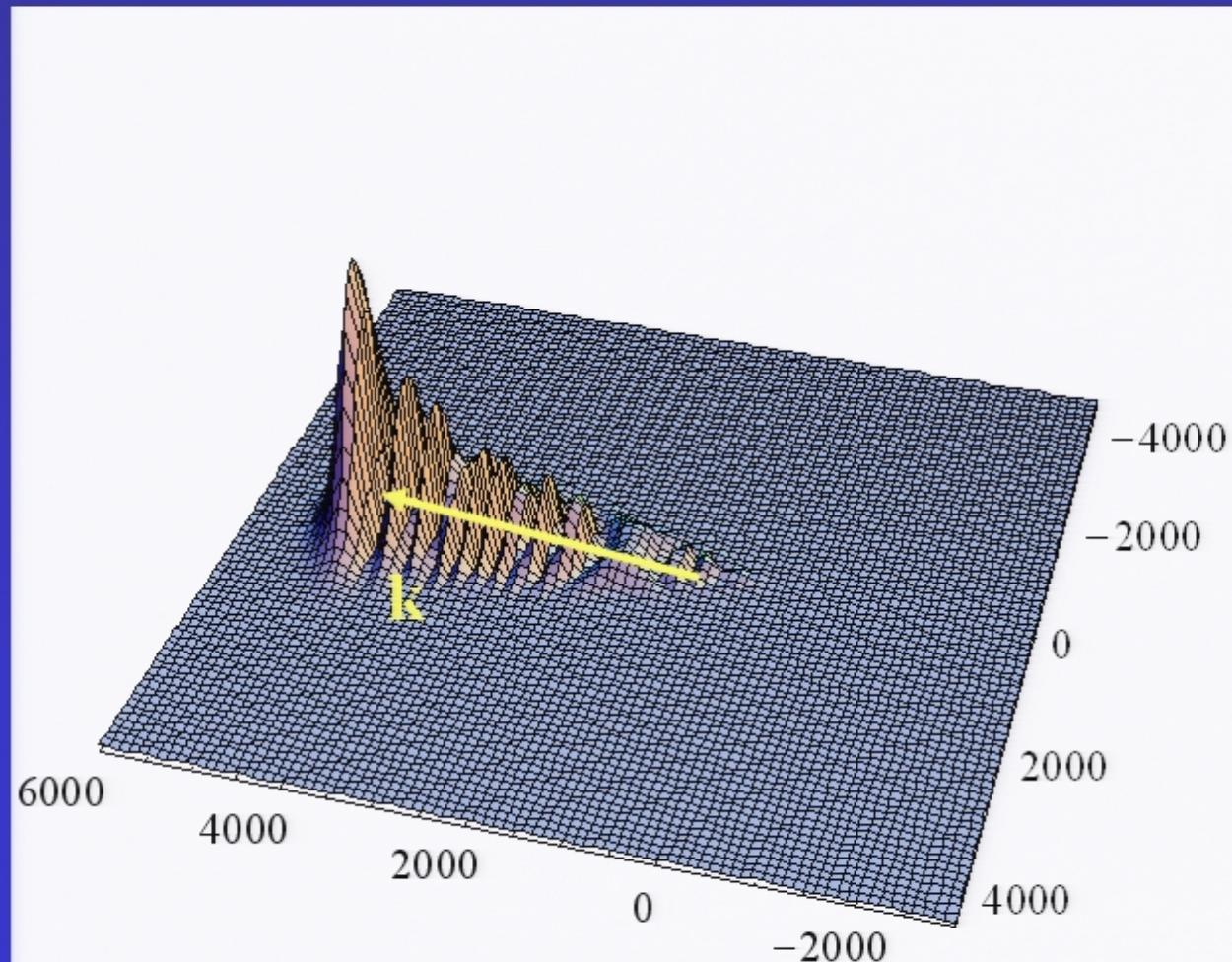
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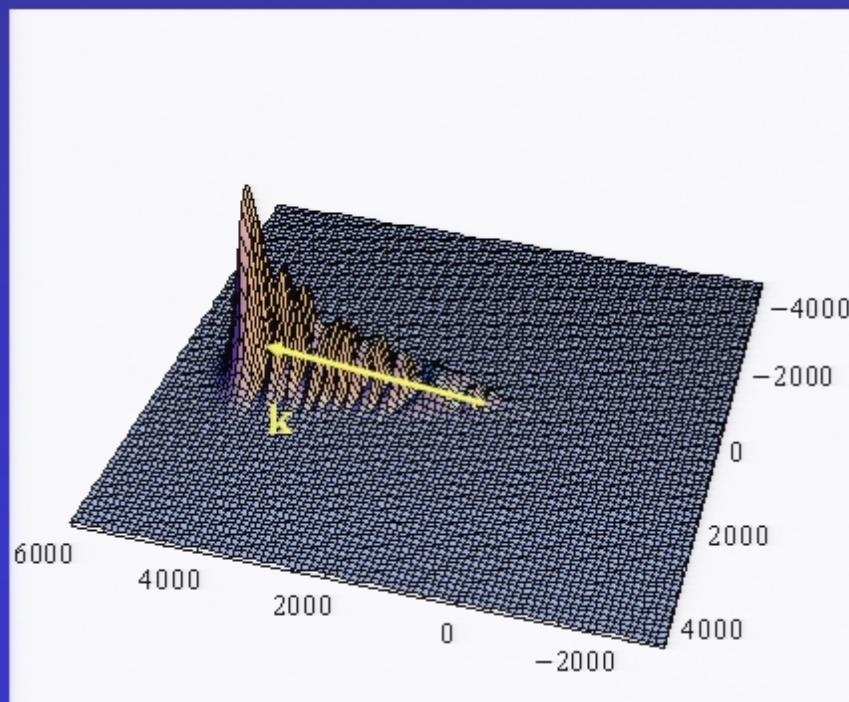


# Extreme Stark state, $xy$ -plane

## $|\psi|^2$ for $e=1$ , $k=x$



## Extreme Stark state, $xy$ -plane $|\psi|^2$ for $e=1, k=x$



- Generic elliptic state,  $xy$ -plane 21  
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